

## House Resolution 496

By: Representatives Stephens of the 164<sup>th</sup>, Gilliard of the 162<sup>nd</sup>, Anulewicz of the 42<sup>nd</sup>, Oliver of the 82<sup>nd</sup>, Buckner of the 137<sup>th</sup>, and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Nellie Dunaway Duke; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, Nellie Duke has long been recognized by the citizens and leaders of this state  
3 for her outstanding service to women and children in her home State of Georgia; and

4 WHEREAS, for the past 27 years she has diligently and conscientiously devoted numerous  
5 hours of her time, talents, and energy toward the betterment of the women of Georgia,  
6 serving as a charter member of the Georgia Commission on Women since 1992, presiding  
7 as Chairperson since 1994, first appointed by Lieutenant Governor Pierre Howard, and  
8 reappointed by both Lieutenant Governors Mark Taylor and Casey Cagle; and

9 WHEREAS, throughout her lifelong service to women's issues, she has been a devoted  
10 advocate for Georgia women, celebrating the accomplishments of women in Georgia,  
11 informing government officials of issues affecting women such as the prevention of violence,  
12 child abuse, elder abuse, human trafficking, and the tireless fight against osteoporosis,  
13 cardiovascular disease, teen pregnancy, and the issues concerning veterans; and

14 WHEREAS, since the 1970's she has worked for the ratification of the Equal Rights  
15 Amendment and has continued to promote the advancement of women as the Chairperson  
16 of the Georgia Osteoporosis Initiative, Georgia Woman of the Year Committee, Inc., Georgia  
17 Women's Alliance, and as a part of her work with the Georgia Commission on Women  
18 assisted in the publishing of *Women and the Law: A Guide to Women's Legal Rights in*  
19 *Georgia*; and

20 WHEREAS, the high esteem in which her colleagues hold her is demonstrated in her receipt  
21 of numerous awards, most recently including an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters from  
22 the University of West Georgia and the Key to the City of Carrollton; and

23 WHEREAS, her tireless commitment to justice and equality has changed the lives of  
24 countless Georgian women, helping to guarantee women rights and freedoms they may not  
25 have otherwise had; and

26 WHEREAS, she is a Georgia native, having been born in Cave Spring in Floyd County,  
27 having graduated from Rome Girl's High School; and

28 WHEREAS, she and her late husband Henry raised five children and have nine devoted  
29 grandchildren along with nine great-grandchildren.

30 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
31 the members of this body recognize and commend Nellie Dunaway Duke for her unselfish  
32 and dedicated public service to the State of Georgia and thank her for her many years of  
33 service and extend the most sincere best wishes for continued health and happiness.

34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
35 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Nellie  
36 Dunaway Duke.